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PENDING CLAIMS

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GROUP 3600

157. (Twice Amended) A currency evaluation device comprising:

a discriminating unit adapted to evaluate currency bills, the discriminating unit including a detector, the discriminating unit adapted to determine the denomination of said bills and to detect the occurrence of a plurality of error conditions;

an interface adapted to permit a user of the evaluation device to specify how the plurality of error conditions are to be handled; and

a memory adapted to store user information specifying how the plurality of error conditions are to be handled, the information being capable of subsequent recall and selection by a user of the evaluation device.

158. (Twice Amended) A currency evaluation device for receiving a stack of currency bills and rapidly evaluating all the bills in the stack, the device comprising:

an input receptacle adapted to receive a stack of bills to be evaluated;

a plurality of output receptacles adapted to receive bills after evaluation;

a transport mechanism adapted to transport bills, one at a time, from the input receptacle to the plurality of output receptacles along a transport path;

a discriminating unit adapted to evaluate the bills, the discriminating unit including a detector positioned along the transport path between the input receptacle and the output receptacle, the discriminating unit adapted to determine the denomination of the bills and to detect the occurrence of a plurality of error conditions;

a memory adapted to store information associated with a plurality of modes of operation of the device, the memory being designed to store at least one user-defined mode of operation, the user-defined mode of operation being capable of subsequent recall and selection by a user of the evaluation device;

an interface adapted to permit a user of the evaluation device to define the user-defined mode of operation, the interface receiving information from the user specifying how the device is to operate including how the plurality of error conditions are to be handled, the information being stored in the memory; and

a mode selection element permitting the user to select one of the modes of operation.

164. The evaluation device of claim 157 further comprising a transport mechanism adapted to transport the currency bills from an input receptacle, one at a time, past the detector, to the plurality of output receptacles, wherein the interface is adapted to permit the user to input information further specifying that the operation of the evaluation device should be suspended so that a bill triggering a particular one of a plurality of error conditions is stopped before being delivered into one of the plurality of output receptacle such that the bill is located within the transport mechanism.

165. The evaluation device of 157 further comprising a transport mechanism adapted to transport the currency bills from an input receptacle, one at a time, past the detector, to the plurality of output receptacles, wherein the interface is adapted to permit the user to input information further specifying that upon the occurrence of a particular one of the plurality of error conditions (1) the operation of the evaluation device should be suspended or (2) a bill triggering the particular error condition should be off-sorted to one of the plurality of output receptacles without suspending operation of the evaluation device.

166. The evaluation device of claim 165 wherein the interface is adapted to permit the user to input information further specifying that the operation of the evaluation device should be suspended so that a bill triggering the particular error condition is presented in one of the plurality of output receptacles.

167. The evaluation device of claim 165 wherein the interface is adapted to permit the user to input information further specifying that upon the occurrence of the particular error condition the operation of the evaluation device should be suspended so that a bill triggering the particular error condition is stopped before being delivered into one of the plurality of output receptacles such that the bill is located within a transport mechanism of the evaluation device.

168. (Amended) The evaluation device of claim 157 further comprising a transport mechanism adapted to transport the currency bills, one at a time, from an input receptacle past

the detector to the plurality of output receptacles, wherein the interface is adapted to permit the user to input information further specifying that upon the occurrence of a particular one of the plurality of error conditions the operation of the evaluation device should be suspended so that a bill triggering the particular error condition is stopped (1) before being delivered into an output receptacle such that the bill is located within the transport mechanism or (2) after being delivered into an output receptacle such that the bill is presented in the at least one output receptacle.

169. The evaluation device of claim 158 wherein the interface is adapted to receive information from the user further specifying that the operation of the evaluation device should be suspended so that a bill triggering one of a plurality of error conditions is stopped before being delivered into the at least one output receptacle such that the bill is located within the transport mechanism.

170. The evaluation device of 158 wherein the at least one output receptacle is a plurality of output receptacles, and wherein the interface is adapted to permit the user to input information further specifying that upon the occurrence of a particular one of the plurality of error conditions (1) the operation of the evaluation device should be suspended or (2) a bill triggering the particular error condition should be off-sorted to an output receptacle without suspending operation of the evaluation device.

171. The evaluation device of claim 170 wherein the interface is adapted to permit a user to input information further specifying that upon the occurrence of the particular error condition the operation of the evaluation device should be suspended so that a bill triggering the particular error condition is presented in one of the plurality of output receptacles.

172. The evaluation device of claim 170 wherein the interface is adapted to permit the user to input information further specifying that upon the occurrence of the particular error condition the operation of the evaluation device should be suspended so that a bill triggering the particular error condition is stopped before being delivered to the plurality of output receptacles such that the bill is located within the transport mechanism.

173. The evaluation device of claim 158 wherein the interface is adapted to permit the user to input information further specifying that upon the occurrence of a particular one of the plurality of error conditions whether the operation of the evaluation device should be suspended so that a bill triggering the particular error condition is stopped (1) before being delivered to the at least one output receptacle such that the bill is located within the transport mechanism or (2) after being delivered into the at least one output receptacle such that the bill is presented in the at least one output receptacle such that the bill is presented in the at least one output receptacle.

181. A currency evaluation device for receiving a stack of currency bills and rapidly evaluating all the bills in the stack, the device comprising:

- an input receptacle adapted to receive a stack of bills to be evaluated;
- a plurality of output receptacles adapted to receive bills after evaluation;
- a transport mechanism adapted to transport bills, one at a time, from the input receptacle along a transport path to the plurality of output receptacles;
- an evaluation unit adapted to determine information concerning each of the bills including the denomination of each of the bills, the evaluation unit including a sensor positioned along the transport path, the evaluation unit being adapted to detect one or more error conditions;
- a nonvolatile memory adapted to store information associated with a plurality of pre-defined modes of operation of the device, the memory being adapted to store at least one user-defined mode of operation in a manner such that the at least one user-defined mode of operation is capable of subsequent recall and selection by a user of the evaluation device;
- an interface adapted to permit a user of the evaluation device to define the user-defined mode of operation, the interface being adapted to receive information from the user specifying criteria for evaluating the bills and specifying to which of output receptacles a bill meeting or failing to meet one or more criteria is to be transported, the information being stored in the nonvolatile memory as a user-defined mode of operation; and
- a mode selection element adapted to permit the user to select a mode of operation selected from the group consisting of the plurality of pre-defined mode of operation and the at least one user defined mode of operation.

190. (New) A currency evaluation device comprising:

a discriminating unit for evaluating currency bills, the discriminating unit including a detector, the discriminating unit adapted to determine the denomination of the bills and to detect the occurrence of a plurality of error conditions;

an interface adapted to permit a user of the evaluation device to specify how the plurality of error conditions are to be handled; and

a memory adapted to store user information specifying how the plurality of error conditions are to be handled.

191. (New) The currency evaluation device of claim 190 further comprising a plurality of output receptacles for receiving bills after the bills have been evaluated, the interface permitting the user to specify, for each of the error conditions, to which output receptacle or receptacles a bill triggering a particular error condition is to be directed.

192. (New) The currency evaluation device of claim 190 wherein the interface permits the user to specify, for each of the error conditions, whether the evaluation device should suspend operation.

196. (New) The currency evaluation device of claims 190 further comprising a plurality of output receptacles for receiving bills after the bills have been evaluated, the interface permitting the user to specify that upon the occurrence of a particular error condition the operation of the evaluation device should be suspended so that a bill triggering a particular error condition is stopped before being delivered into one of the output receptacles such that the bill is located within a transport mechanism of the evaluation device.

197. (New) The currency evaluation device of claim 196 wherein user information specifies that the bill is to be stopped at a predetermined position within a transport mechanism of the evaluation device.

198. (New) The currency evaluation device of claims 190 further comprising a plurality of output receptacles for receiving bills after the bills have been evaluated, the interface permitting the user to specify that upon the occurrence of a particular error condition the operation of the

evaluation device is to be suspended so that a bill triggering a particular error condition is stopped after being delivered into one of the output receptacles.

199. (New) The currency evaluation device of claim 190 wherein the interface permits the user the option of specifying that upon the occurrence of a particular error condition (1) the operation of the evaluation device should be suspended or (2) a bill triggering the particular error condition should be off-sorted to an output receptacle of the evaluation device without suspending the operation of the evaluation device.

200. (New) The currency evaluation device of claim 190 wherein the interface permits the user to specify that upon the occurrence of a particular error condition the operation of the evaluation device should be suspended so that a bill triggering the particular error condition is presented in an output receptacle of the evaluation device.

204. (New) The currency evaluation device of claim 190 further comprising exactly two output receptacles for receiving bills after the bills have been evaluated

205. (New) The currency evaluation device of claim 190 wherein the user is permitted to define the name for the stored user information specifying how the plurality of error conditions are to be handled.

206. (New) The currency evaluation device of claim 190 wherein the memory in which the user information specifying how the plurality of error conditions are to be handled is stored is a nonvolatile memory.

207. (New) The currency evaluation device of claim 190 wherein user information specifying how the plurality of error conditions are to be handled stored in memory may be repeatedly recalled including being recallable after power to the currency evaluation device has been switched off and on and being recallable on days subsequent to the day that the user information is originally stored in the memory.

208. (New) The currency evaluation device of claim 190 wherein the user information specifying how the plurality of error conditions are to be handled is stored in memory such that the user information may be repeatedly recalled including being recallable after the device is operated in another mode of operation.